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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,324	09/26/2003	Tetsuya Matsumura	243143US2	5104
22850	7590	03/15/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2621				
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	03/15/2007	ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 03/15/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/670,324	MATSUMURA ET AL.
	Examiner Andy S. Rao	Art Unit 2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/2/05</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gonzales et al., (US Patent 5,231,484 hereinafter referred to as "Gonzales").

Gonzales discloses an image coding apparatus (Gonzales: figure 6), comprising: a dynamic image coder for inputting a video signal defining a dynamic image and carrying out first (Gonzales: column 10, lines 40-45) and second coding processings (Gonzales: column 10, lines 60-65) for said video signal (Gonzales: column 10, lines 1-5), to output an output bit stream signal (Gonzales: column 10, lines 50-55); and a coding control section for controlling a coding operation of said dynamic image coder (Gonzales: column 11, lines 55-67), wherein said coding control section controls said dynamic image coder to continuously carry out said first and second coding processings without providing a pause period within a predetermined period (Gonzales: column 23, lines 25-42), as in claim 1.

Regarding claims 2-4, Gonzales discloses a storage section connected to said dynamic image coder, wherein said dynamic image coder stores, in said storage section, information for a coding processing which is obtained by said first coding processing and executing said second

coding processing by using said information for a coding processing which is obtained from said storage section, to output said output bit stream signal (Gonzales: column 15, lines 5-35), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 5, Gonzales discloses The image coding apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a storage section connected to said dynamic image coder, wherein said dynamic image coder stores, in said storage section, a first bit stream signal obtained by said first coding processing (Gonzales: column 15, liens 5-25) and executes said second coding processing to obtain a second bit stream signal, to output one bit stream signal as said output bit stream signal based on a result of a comparison of said second bit stream signal with said first bit stream signal obtained from said storage section (Gonzales: column 11, liens 40-67; column 12, liens 1-15), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 6, Gonzales discloses wherein said first and second coding processings are carded out for a video signal corresponding to the same frame (Gonzales: column 12, liens 60-67), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 7, Gonzales discloses wherein said first and second coding processings are carried out for video signals corresponding to different frames (Gonzales: column 13, lines 50-67), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 8, Gonzales discloses wherein said storage section stores said information for a coding processing on a macro block unit two-dimensionally (Gonzales: column figure 4), as in the claim.

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Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Gonzales (US Patent: 5,289,577) discloses a process pipeline architecture for image/video processing.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621

asr
March 9, 2007

ASDR
PRIMARY EXAMINER